Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend specification as follows:

1. Please insert the enclosed paper copy of the sequence listing into the application after the section entitled "Abstract of the Disclosure."

2. Please replace the first paragraph of page 6, beginning at line 1 with the following:

Fig. 3A is a Western blot of HA-tagged Mab1p. Fig. 3B is an alignment of the predicted Mab1p sequence with selected additional proteins of the Sm family. The amino acid sequences of Sm motif1 and Sm motif 2 from Saccharomyces cerevisiae B are provided in the sequence listing as SEQ ID NO:1 and SEQ ID NO:2, respectively; the amino acid sequences of Sm motif1 and Sm motif 2 from Saccharomyces cerevisiae D1 are provided in the sequence listing as SEQ ID NO:3 and SEQ ID NO:4, respectively; the amino acid sequences of Sm motif1 and Sm motif 2 from Saccharomyces cerevisiae E are provided in the sequence listing as SEQ ID NO:5 and SEQ ID NO:6, respectively; the amino acid sequences of Sm motif1 and Sm motif 2 from Saccharomyces cerevisiae F are provided in the sequence listing as SEQ ID NO:7 and SEQ ID NO:8, respectively; the amino acid sequences of Sm motif1 and Sm motif 2 from Saccharomyces cerevisiae G are provided in the sequence listing as SEQ ID NO:9 and SEQ ID NO:10, respectively; the amino acid sequences of Sm motif1 and Sm motif 2 from Saccharomyces cerevisiae MAB1 are provided in the sequence listing as SEQ ID NO:11 and SEQ ID NO:12, respectively; the amino acid sequences of Sm motif1 and Sm motif 2 from Schizosaccharomyces pombe Z95620 are provided in the sequence listing as SEQ ID NO:13 and SEQ ID NO:14, respectively; the amino acid sequences of Sm motif1 and Sm motif 2 from human Sm-Ca are provided in the sequence listing as SEQ ID NO:15 and SEQ ID NO:16, respectively; the amino acid sequences of Sm motif1 and Sm motif 2 from Caenorhabditis elegans Z69302 are provided in the sequence listing as SEQ ID NO:17 and SEQ ID NO:18, respectively; the amino acid sequences of Sm motif1 and Sm motif 2 from Saccharomyces cerevisiae MAK31 are provided in the sequence listing as SEQ ID NO:19 and SEQ ID NO:20, respectively; and the amino acid sequences of the conserved Sm motif1 and Sm motif 2 are provided in the sequence listing as SEQ ID NO:21 and SEQ ID NO:22, respectively.

3. Please replace the paragraph on page 52 starting at line 14 and ending at line 20 with the following:

As described above, one may obtain the altered genes of the present invention by various means known to one of skill in the art of microbiology. Most simply, one may obtain the yeast gene by probing a yeast gene library with probes obtained by studying the sequence of the gene. These sequences may be obtained from the yeast protein database at YJL124C for *MAB1*, YDR324C for *MAB2* and YDJ1 for *MAB3*. ~~The nucleic acid sequences are also disclosed below at SEQ ID NO:1, 2 and 3.~~